

Edgefield Advertiser.

Oldest Newspaper In South Carolina

VOL. 77.

EDGEFIELD, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1913

NO. 43

JOHNSTON LETTER.

Knights of Pythias Banquet. Lee's Birthday to be Suitably Observed. Mr. Lott's Class of Young Men.

The banquet of the Knights of Pythias held on the last Thursday evening at Turner hall was quite the pleasantest affair held here in some time, the only regret of it being the inability of the speaker, Hon. Mendel L. Smith, of Camden, to be present, but arrangement was made for speeches by local talent. The hall presented a pretty appearance, having been given over to 14 young ladies, and the banquet table was in the shape of a Greek cross, in the center there being a large pyramid of ferns and flowers, and at the four points, were arrangements of flowers, with tropical fruits arranged temptingly on the festive board. Two hundred covers were laid, and the feast was greatly enjoyed. Concluding this, Mr. J. A. Lott acted as toast master, and the first to be heard from was Prof. William Fletcher Scott, on "why I am not a Pythian." He was greeted with a round of applause and his reasons afforded much laughter, and in his closing remarks he spoke of his high regard of the principles sustained by the K. of P.

The second speaker was Rev. E. H. Beckham, his subject being "Not decided." In his own characteristic way he handled his subject, and caused great laughter as he made a play upon the undecided young couples nearby, and told them that as soon as they did decide, they knew where to find him.

The third called upon was Mr. S. J. Watson, and his subject was "Hair," and the very subject brought forth merriment, and during his speech, he kept all laughing. He closed by saying that although he had now lost all his hair, he had managed to keep all secrets of the Knights of Pythias.

The fourth speaker was Rev. P. E. Monroe on "Damon and Pythias." The keynote of his remarks was friendship and he spoke feelingly of this characteristic of the order. Several other extemporaneous speeches were called for from some present.

Mr. Dunbar, of Augusta, has leased the hotel of Mr. O. S. Wertz, and moved his family here this week. The town at present has only one hotel and the need of another one has been felt.

Mrs. Harry Hamilton and Master Harry spent last week in Edgefield with Mesdames W. E. Lott and J. H. Allen.

Mrs. Chas. Early has returned to Florence after a month's stay at the home of her father, Mr. W. W. Satcher.

Gen. Robt. E. Lee's birthday will be celebrated on Sunday January 20th, instead of the 19th. The occasion will be held at the school auditorium.

The Christmas offering from the Women's Missionary Society, of the Baptist church was \$110. The Y. W. A. had a good gift, but as yet all the envelopes have not been gathered in. The Sunbeams gave \$50.

Little Agnes Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Brown, happened to a very painful accident last week. She had an open knife in her hand and running across the room fell, the knife in some way, piercing the lower jaw, a part of the blade extending through.

The class of young gentlemen, taught by Mrs. J. A. Lott, at the Baptist Sunday school, is one of the most interesting and promising. At the end of each quarter she has a written examination and the papers are splendid. In the last examination each one did remarkably well, but especial mention is made of Mr. Wallace Turner who made 100, perfect; Mr. Jefferson, 2nd, 99; Mr. Irwin Reames, 3rd, 98. It was not known that at the end of the year a prize would be given, and Wallace was surprised with a handsome volume of Ben Hur.

Mr. James Turner has been suffering greatly for the past month with his eye and for two weeks has been in a darkened room with the afflicted member bandaged, and it was feared at first that it would have to be removed. About 6 or 8 months ago, his left eye was removed,

thinking this might strengthen the other.

A junior Y. W. A. was organized last Sunday afternoon, the officers being, president, Miss Paulin Lewis; vice-president, Miss Bessie Ford Turner; treasurer, Miss Lois Hoyt; secretary, Miss Frances Turner; organist, Miss Bettie Waters.

The first quarterly conference of the year will convene Saturday and Sunday at the Methodist church, and the presiding elder, Bishop Duncan will preach at the Sunday morning service.

Mrs. John W. Marsh entertained with a delightful dining on Saturday, for their guest, and aunt of the latter, Mrs. W. B. Bouknight, of Jacksonville, Florida.

Miss Annie Louise Asbill, of Winston-Salem, N. C., is spending awhile with her young friends.

Mr. James Kenny, of Mississippi, visited relatives here recently, it having been 30 years since he was in South Carolina.

Miss Cora Mobley is the guest of Miss Mary Matheny in Augusta.

News Letter From Plum Branch.

Dear Editor:- We are rejoicing over the fact that the weather man made a mistake when he predicted a cold wave for us. We had a wave but not a cold one, only a little damp and disagreeable. Instead of the cold wave we have had good weather on our oat crop, for the outlook is good and the best of it is we have a larger crop. Yes there has been more oats sown this last year than for years past, and if the spring is favorable there will be considerably more sown.

Our merchants are busy closing up last year's accounts and making preparations for a good business for this year and with a will to make a success, regardless of the money stringency. The farmers generally are hopeful and apparently happy over the prospects of a good crop year. According to some of the old people's saying and prognostications of the old twelve days we will have a seasonable year. Well let us hope. Were it not for hope we would be the most miserable creatures on earth.

The high school with all the teachers in their places have returned after the holidays and resumed their work, and the children are glad and happy and seem to enjoy their part of the program, i. e. the recess part of it from the noise they make at noon and evening.

Some sickness in and around town. None serious however.

Mr. B. D. Kitchings has been quite sick but is up and around the house.

Mrs. E. Colman has been sick with gripe and cold but she is up and able to walk about the house.

Brother Freeman the Baptist minister left us last Saturday for his new home and work at Blackstock in Chester county where he has two churches and a good and pleasant field to work in. We were sorry to see him leave us but we are glad that he has a good place and we hope for him and his family a prosperous and a happy year. Brother Freeman and his family have endeared themselves to the large majority of our people here, not only among his own flock but the Methodist, and the young people are a unit in his praise.

Well, Bro. Mims, look up our new supervisor, Mr. Edmunds, and tell him our roads are more "holy than righteous," and we will take pleasure in showing him around. I guess our law makers will get down to work now soon. There is one thing they might do that will save the state a lot of money by doing away with the criminal part of our jury. Let us have a jury to try all civil cases but I don't see the need of a criminal jury when one man can undo all that 12 men and judge do, and sometimes it takes several days for the 12 men the judge and lawyers to convict, and one man can undo in a moment what they have done. Something is out of joint if this state of things can't be remedied. We have some good lawyers in our legislative halls and if there is any way to take the pardoning power out of the governor's hands it should be done at least for the next two years. Brother Mims, we or our grand old state are in bad shape when our executive will condone crime. We have laws, let us abide by them and every off-

icer from a magistrate to a constable is supposed to see that the law is kept to the letter.

If matters continue to go on as they now are our grand old state and her people will be looked upon as a set of anarchists by our sister state. Don Carlos.

Rev. John Lake Preached in Greenville.

A writer in the Baptist Courier last week had the following to say concerning a sermon preached at the First Baptist church in Greenville by Rev. John Lake:

The text was "The sower soweth the word." Mark 4:14. There is something quite charming about Mr. Lake. His face wins you, and there is an honest ring in his voice. He is simplicity itself; and has the happy faculty of being able to select a few things out of many, a few that illustrate his point. There appears to be nothing especially gifted in his method of telling his story, but it has been a long time since I saw an audience as deeply interested in missionary narratives. There were all classes of people out on Sunday morning but if there was a listless auditor in the house he was not in my range of vision.

The sermon gave illustrations from the missionary's own experience of the various classes of hearers spoken of in the parable. But before he began with these illustrations he dropped a word that might well sink into the heart of those who were opposed to missions. He said, "You have all seen men sowing, who could ill spare the seed they were scattering over the ground; and yet they dared not stop sowing. Their very bread depended on it."

"We have discouragements in our work." There are "by-path" hearers. Many a time the missionary has sat in a boat and preached to teeming hundreds upon the shore; and in the very midst of his most earnest appeals, would be stopped by some listener with a question about the price of his clothes! And this not from mere curiosity. It is just now becoming fashionable in China to wear the Western garb and the price is a matter of useful information.

"As an illustration of the 'stony ground hearer' the preacher told of a young princess, who while in school in England had joined a Christian church and after returning to China became an attendant upon the Queen Dowager, that wonderful but monstrous old woman who hated fiercely all things Christian and foreign. The young princess won the old woman. One evening when the two were walking together the queen said, 'I love you. But, while in your Western school, did they induce you to become a Christian?' The young princess said 'No,' and the two continued friends.

"There was also a fine story to illustrate the 'thorny ground hearer'; and, best of all, two others to illustrate those who received the Word into good and honest hearts. But these last can't be reduced in compass without killing them. One was of a poor, and, remarkable to relate, an honest, servant, who was as ignorant as he was ugly but who slowly and surely came to conversion and afterwards to a devoted and useful life. The other was of a great scholar who became a Christian after he became a professor in a Christian college; and who later, reading the Bible translated by Baptists and printed in our Chinese publishing house, noticed that baptizo was translated by the Chinese word for immersion. Mrs. Lake had but little trouble in leading him to the light; and to hear was to obey. That man was baptized in a pond before a jeering crowd and is today a deacon-preacher and one of great power.

"The missionary explained that the version of the Bible which converted that man is now out of print and that he wants to raise \$10,000 to enable our publishing house to issue another edition."

He-If I was rich, darling, would you love me more than you do?

She-Well, I might not love you any more, but I would look forward to our wedding day with a great deal more impatience than I do at present.

Edgefield's Delegation to General Assembly



Senator B. E. Nicholson.



Representative J. P. DeLaughter.



Representative Jerome H. Courtney.

"The Defenders of Charleston."

The history of any nation is largely the history of its great men, its leaders in thought and action. Especially is this true of Edgefield, for her history has been made entirely by her own brave men. Edgefield county may justly claim a conspicuous place in all of the great struggles that have involved the country since it has been established as a county, by the number and bravery of the soldiers she has sent to the front, and for the heroism of our women that sustained them at home in that sad struggle between the States from the borders of Edgefield county, a large number of companies went to the front in defense of the principles they believed to be right.

The subject of this sketch is "The Defenders of Charleston," and it is with a feeling of pride that I write, that the defenders of Charleston in the sixties were to a large extent Edgefield county men. It is not my purpose in this article to give an account of the battles out side of this state, even of those in which our troops participated, for time and space will not permit. I will only state here, that the volunteers from Edgefield were mostly embodied in the nineteenth and seventh regiments. Those in the nineteenth went west, and were in all the campaigns and battles in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi, and those who endured were with Johnston at the final surrender. The seventh was sent early in the war to Virginia, and shared with the dauntless Lee, the glories and disasters that befell him from Bull Run to the falling of the curtain at Appomattox.

Charles on, being then the largest sea-port town in South Carolina, with a full bay open to the largest steamers, and in close touch in a commercial way with the largest countries of the world, was necessarily a much desired port to be taken. The union troops realized this and from the beginning it was evident that they would bend every effort to capture the city. On the 19th of April President Lincoln issued a proclamation blockading the whole southern coast from South Carolina to Texas and they felt assured that with Charleston well in hand, they could land troops and supplies as needed. It only remained to be shown that the city by the sea was not to be as easily captured as was supposed, for history will agree with me that the fights about Charleston harbor are among the most remarkable of all time. All eyes were now turned on Sumter, and from the booming of the first gun, there was a tremendous outburst of patriotic feeling over the entire south. The defense of Fort Sumter stands in the first rank among the great sieges of history, and must have a place along with the defense of Gibraltar and Sevastopol. Alfred Rhett, was the immortal commander of this port and the credit is due to his courage, and the value of the men who manned his batteries.

The Confederate government sent Gen. Beauregard to assume charge of the defense in Charleston harbor, and he also had in his command troops from Georgia and Florida. These were under Gen. Johnson Hagood, and it was at Honey Hill

that the Georgians showed such skill and ardor, the enemies loss being very heavy.

Next in importance to Sumter, and only a few hundred yards away is Moultrie. This port was held by Col. William P. Butler of Edgefield, one of the bravest of the brave, with five companies of the first Carolina infantry. I must mention with especial emphasis the battle of Battery Wagner on Morris Island. Beauregard was gifted with wonderful engineering ability, and the shell shown in the construction of this fort was of the highest order. One of the forts now used at West Point is an exact imitation of this one. The ground on which these fortifications stood has long since disappeared beneath the waves, but the memory of this heroic defense will live forever.

Students of the Confederate war should also remember the fight at Secessionville, on James Island, in which the union forces under Gen. Hunter were defeated by the Confederates under Gen. Johnson Hagood. They were repelled twice in an effort to destroy the railroad between Charleston and Savannah, and two weeks after this defeat the union forces abandoned James Island. Major Joseph Abney another one of Edgefield's brave men, with his intrepid body of sharpshooters held a position on the other side, and the most poorly defended coast of James Island, but this however was not engaged in the battle of Secessionville.

We find another Edgefield county man at the front as commander of Battery Bee, on Sullivan's Island. This was Lieut. Col. John C. Simkins. As soon as South Carolina seceded and it was known that war was inevitable, he was among the first to offer his services to Gov. Pickens. He did splendid service in the repulse of the Iron Clads in the naval attack on Charleston. On the night of the 16th of July, he with three companies of the regiment, and Capt. Adams, Haskell and Tatum, was ordered to Battery Wagner on Morris Island. Here he acted as chief of artillery, and he and his devoted little band without rest or sleep stood under a terrific bombardment until the night of the 18th, when while repulsing the enemy he fell, pierced through the right lung by a minnie ball.

I must not neglect to mention Gen. R. G. M. Danovant, who was in charge of forces in Charleston, but I have been unable to find his exact location. In the commissary department we find Mr. John E. Bacon, and our beloved Col. James Bacon.

These were all brave and gallant men and their lives have not been lived in vain. Had they all lived they would have held positions of trust and honor, and done good also in their nation's service, and history will certainly accord them their proper place.

Helen Sheppard Nicholson.
(The foregoing paper was read at a meeting of the Edgefield chapter, U. D. C., by Mrs. Nicholson.)

Supply Humus, and all Things Else Will be Added.

How does the so-called "resting" of land improve it? By the fact that weeds and other vegetation grow on it and take up the available

plant foods and this vegetation dying and decaying furnishes this plant food back to the soil for other crops and in its decay also sets free still other plant foods for the use of succeeding plants.

How is land under cultivation made richer? By the application of stable manure, the plowing under of crops and the supplying of mineral plant foods in larger quantities than the crops remove.

How are rich lands which produce crops maintained fertile? By the growing of legumes, which add nitrogen; the application of more mineral plant foods, phosphorus and potassium, than the crops remove; and the plowing under of stable manure and vegetable matter to replenish the supply of decaying organic matter or humus.

These seem simple facts, which every farmer knows are true. Then why not follow nature's methods and man's common sense practice in dealing with the soil?

A correspondent recently intimated that we seemed to have lost sight of everything else in soil management in our desire to get more humus. This is not quite true, but if we could get our southern farmers to supply the needed humus to their soils, we would be quite willing to ignore all other matters for several years, feeling secure that the addition of the needed humus would do more to increase the productiveness of Southern soils than anything else that can be done and confident that all other things will come in good season when our soils have been made as productive as a full supply of decaying vegetable matter will surely make them.

Statement From Mr. Blackwell.

I notice an item in your paper of January 8, from the Plum Branch correspondent where he has used my name very freely in connection with a supper given in honor of the Plum Branch Knights of Pythias by Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Adams. While I have no objections to his using my name in connection with such a grand affair as this no doubt was, and it was my most sincere regret that I could not be present, I wish that the Plum Branch correspondent would refrain from using my name in connection with a young lady in another section of the state, and in case he should refer to me or this lady in particular, I would be glad if he would first ascertain the facts of the case, for I don't know as there is anything to the report that this girl has pneumonia. I don't think it was anything more than a cold and what I said in regard to this was only a supposition of mine that it might be something of the kind and was not said for publication.

I do sincerely hope that the lady referred to will never see the piece that was written by the Plum Branch correspondent and in case she should see it I am writing this that she might fully understand that this information was not given out by me.

Yours very truly,
J. B. Blackwell.

This piece of lace on my dress is over fifty years old.
"It's beautiful. Did you make it yourself?"